

only self-supporting agriculturally but also produces surplus food for export to its neighbours.

At present, Zimbabwe's agricultural production is heavily dependent upon the high productivity of the European farmers who obtain yields of Maize (*Zea mays*) of 5.2 tonnes per hectare as against 0.65 tonnes per hectare in the peasant sector. Eighty per cent of gross output and 95% of all marketed produce from the agricultural sector in Zimbabwe came in 1980 from the so-called commercial areas which are predominantly European-owned. Although resettlement programmes are currently aimed at occupying unused land, it is clear that in the longer term the commercial areas will fall increasingly into the hands of peasant farmers. The big question is, therefore, whether peasant farming technology can be improved sufficiently to raise its yields to the levels attained on the large-scale white commercial farms. In principle this is perfectly possible, as world-wide the highest agricultural productivity is achieved on peasant smallholdings. But that can only be done where technology is adapted to labour-intensive small-scale farming. This, therefore, was another major theme of the Exhibition.

Surprisingly, the Eastern countries which have the most to teach Africa in this respect were notably absent from the Exhibition. Somewhat obscure ideological issues kept away South Korea and Taiwan, whilst Israel's valuable expertise in tackling problems of water shortage would have been of real value in drought-stricken Matabeleland.

China and other countries of centrally-planned economies needed longer lead-times for planning their participation than were available for this event. However, the decision, announced at the opening Ceremony by President Banana (Fig. 1), to hold the next such event in Bulawayo in September 1984, will make it possible for many more countries to participate next time than the 17 which were represented on this occasion. It is expected that a major conference on rural development technology will take place in Harare (formerly Salisbury) in 1983, to review progress and pinpoint the main themes of 1984's exhibition.

Perhaps the most important achievement of the Exhibition was to focus international and regional attention



Fig. 1. *HE the President of Zimbabwe, Rev. the Hon. Canaan Banana, officially opening the first International Rural Development Technology Exhibition in Bulawayo on 15 September 1982. Looking on are (left to right) Mr Arthur Blumeris, Executive Secretary, Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC), the Hon. Moven Mahachi, Minister for Lands, Resettlement, and Rural Development, and Mr James S. Skinner, Director of ZIIE Pvt Ltd and Author of this account.*

on a leading problem that is facing sub-Saharan Africa—the need to raise living standards in rural areas—not least in order to reduce the frighteningly high rate of population growth. Although both governmental and aid organizations have reached a surprising degree of consensus in giving top priority to rural development, it still seems to lack the glamour and publicity-potential of major industrial projects. The enthusiasm that this Exhibition aroused amongst district officials, civil servants, ministers and farmers alike, showed that a major presentation of available technology for rural development is badly needed. It also showed quite markedly, that the growing interest in Europe and America in developing life-styles which are in harmony with the natural environment, produces technology that is directly relevant to the needs of the peasant farmers and their families in the Third World.

As old-fashioned industrial concentrations give way to dispersed, self-sufficient units in the developed world, it can be expected that interest in small-scale technology will grow—to the benefit of the peasant communities of Africa. Figuratively speaking, the Exhibition enabled the peasant on his way to the town to meet the urban sophisticate on his way to the country—fortified by the technology needed to make a self-sufficient rural life a feasible alternative to urban industrial existence.

JAMES S. SKINNER, *Director*
Zimbabwe International Industrial Exhibitions
11 Manchester Square
London W1M 5AB
England, UK.

3RD WORLD NATIONAL PARKS CONGRESS, HELD IN BALI, INDONESIA, DURING 11–22 OCTOBER 1982

A major step towards integrating conservation with human concerns and needs for development was taken in Bali, Indonesia, when the more than 450 parks and protected area specialists and others from 70 countries attending this auspicious event charted a bold new approach to saving Nature. This was based on the premise that if conservation is to succeed, it must become part of Man's adaptation to the living environment. The Congress accordingly issued the Bali Declaration*, which links conservation with sustainable development and rational use of the world's natural resources, calling on governments and others to take action to save what is left of the world's natural heritage.

The Congress developed a ten-points' Action Plan aimed at contributing to programmes of international organizations, multinational businesses, national protected-area agencies, and nongovernmental conservation bodies in the protected-area field. It also issued 20 recommendations covering such matters as the need for detailed information on protected areas, a global system of representative terrestrial, marine, and coastal, protected areas, the role of protected areas in sustainable development, threats to protected areas, combating poaching, the interaction of protected areas and traditional societies, and a number of other important topics.

Congress delegates urged that no mineral régime be brought into operation in Antarctica until such time as environmental risks have been fully ascertained and

* Printed on page 73 of this issue and soon followed by the World Charter for Nature (cf. pp. 67–8).—Ed.

safeguards developed to avoid adverse environmental effects (thus maintaining voluntary restriction on mineral development). Delegates also called for multilateral and bilateral assistance agencies to consider protected areas as indispensable parts of sustainable development, and urged governments recommending assistance to give increased priority to conservation projects.

The Congress called on all nations acting through the Law of the Sea Convention to establish large sanctuaries in open oceans, in order to further knowledge of these areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and to protect the Common Heritage of all Mankind. These recommendations will help to guide the future activities and priorities of IUCN, and will be widely distributed to other agencies for their consideration.

This World National Parks Congress was the third meeting of its kind and the first to be held in a Third World country. Hosted by the Government of Indonesia and sponsored and organized by IUCN, its co-sponsors included UNEP, UNESCO, FAO, WWF, Parks Canada, and the US National Park Service. Innovative linking of protected areas and development concerns showed that conservation has become part of the fabric of human society in many Third World as well as industrial countries. By planning and managing protected areas to bring sustainable benefits to their people, the tropical countries were shown in Bali to have made major contributions to the international conservation movement.

As an indigenous example, Congress participants were treated to a special announcement of the creation of 11 new national parks (totaling 2,250,377 hectares) in the Republic of Indonesia. The new parks are: the Kerinci Seblat National Park of West Sumatra (1,484,650 ha), the Barisan Selatan National Park in the provinces of Bengkulu and Lampung (365,000 ha), the Bromo Tengger-Semeru National Park in the province of East Java (58,000 ha), the Meru Betiri National Park also in the province of East Java (50,000 ha), the Bali Barat National Park on the island of Bali (77,727 ha), the Tanjung Puting National Park in the province of Central Kalimantan (355,000 ha), the Kutai National Park in the province of East Kalimantan (200,000 ha), the Lore Lindu National Park in the province of Central Sulawesi (231,000 ha), the Dumoga Bone National Park in the province of North Sulawesi (300,000 ha), the Kepulauan Seribu National Park in the province of Jakarta (100,000 ha), and finally the Manusela Wai Nua/Wai Mual National Park in the province of Maluku (189,000 ha). These areas now join five existing national parks, making a grand total of 4,935,996 hectares. Taken as a whole, Indonesia has set aside 299 protected areas (including the national park land) amounting to some 11.2 million hectares or about 6% of the country's land area.

While the participants were in general agreement that the Congress was an exciting event, the impact of the gathering will be judged by its longer-term results.

RAISA SRIABINE, *Director*
IUCN Public Affairs
World Conservation Centre
Avenue du Mont-Blanc
1196 Gland, Switzerland.

OECD REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES IN
GREECE, HELD IN ATHENS, GREECE,
DURING 27 NOVEMBER TO 2 DECEMBER 1982

At the request of the Greek Government, the Environment Committee of the Organization for Economic

Cooperation and Development (OECD) is currently conducting a Review of Greece's Environment Policies. As part of this process, the first review meeting, involving an international review team composed of senior environmental officials from 14 OECD countries, and from the European Communities, IUCN, and UNEP, was held in Greece late in 1982 under the chairmanship of Dr Donald F. McMichael, Secretary of the Department of Home Affairs and Environment, Australia, and Chairman of the OECD Environment Committee. The meeting took place in the presence of the Hon. A. Tritsis, the Greek Minister for Physical Planning, Housing, and the Environment, and was attended by some 100 Greek officials from the various departments involved with environmental policies (e.g. the Ministries of Agriculture, Culture, and National Economy, and the National Tourist Organization). Non-governmental groups were also invited to voice their views, as well as the Mayor of Athens and representatives of municipalities.

A widely-distributed paper on Environmental Issues, prepared by the OECD Secretariat, was the basis for a frank and open discussion between the international review team, the OECD Secretariat headed by the undersigned, and the Greek officials. At the request of the Greek Government, environment was interpreted in the broadest sense. The issues which were debated included Regional and Urban Policies, Air Pollution Abatement Policies, Water Pollution Abatement Policies, Noise Abatement Policies, National Heritage Policies, Tourism Policies, Soil Erosion, Forest and Water Management, Nature Conservation Policies, Institutional Arrangements, Public Participation, and Education.

These issues were selected by the OECD Secretariat in concert with the Greek authorities on the basis of a background report prepared by the Greeks, and subsequent missions of experts to Greece prior to the review meeting.

Following this meeting, at which further information was collected in response to questions posed by the review team and the OECD Secretariat, the latter will develop a Draft Assessment Report and conclusions to be discussed at the second review meeting, to be held in the context of the Environment Committee's 33rd session in May 1983. After that meeting, the adopted conclusions will be submitted to the OECD Council for endorsement, and will be published along with the Assessment Report in the summer of 1983.

Yugoslavia has also requested to have its environmental policies reviewed. This will take place in 1984. Previous environmental reviews have been conducted on Sweden, Japan, and New Zealand.

JOHN W. MACNEILL, *Director*
Environment Directorate
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
2 rue André-Pascal
75775 Paris, France.

Important Prospect:

3RD WORLD WILDERNESS CONGRESS, TO BE HELD
AT INVERNESS AND FORRES, SCOTLAND, UK,
DURING 8-15 OCTOBER 1983

The World Wilderness Congresses are a response to a specific, unfulfilled need in Nature conservation. They attempt to synthesize environmental, social, and industrial, needs—thereby developing a strategy for wilder-